

# **Division** Overview

Dr. Félix A. Miranda

# COMMUNICATIONS & NTELLIGENT SYSTEMS DIVISION

NASA GLENN RESEARCH CENTER

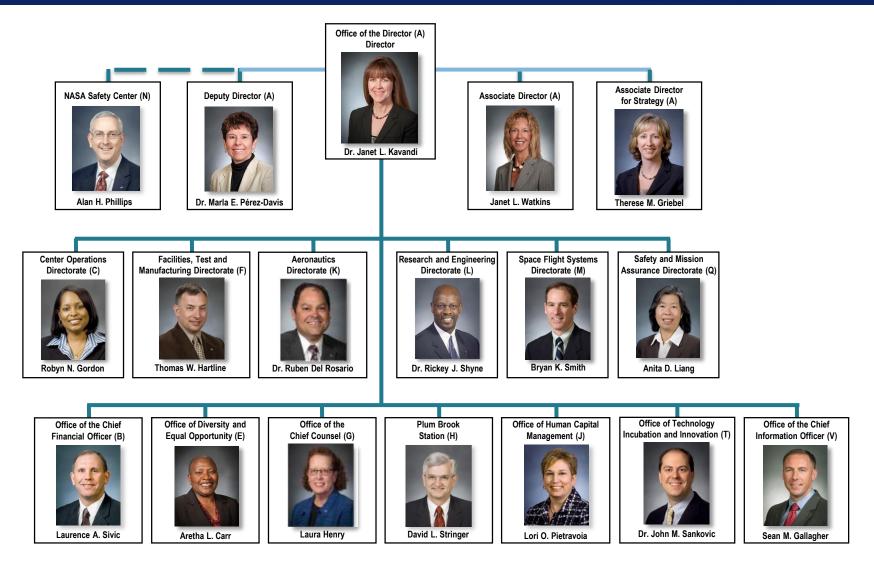
U. of Queensland - TAMU - AFRL/AFOSR Meeting
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX, 77843-3120

June 12-13, 2017



# Glenn Senior Management





\*Recruitment in progress



# Research and Engineering Directorate Leadership Team





Dr. Ajay K. Misra

Director of Research and Engineering (L) Dr. Rickey J. Shyne



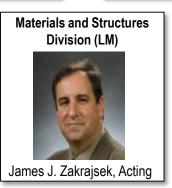














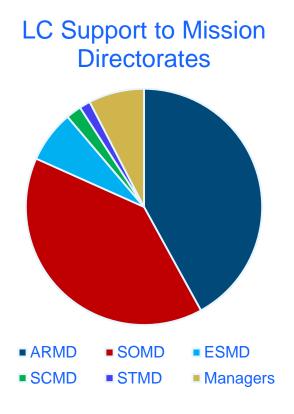




# Communications and Intelligent Systems Division (LC)



Provides expertise, plans, conducts and directs research and engineering in the competency fields of advanced communications and intelligent systems with emphasis on advanced technologies, architecture definition and system development for application in current and future aeronautics and space systems.



#### **LC Competency Elements:**

# Space Communications (SpaceComm) & Aeronautical Communications (AeroComm)

#### Expertise:

- Networks & Architectures
- Information & Signal Processing
- Advanced High Frequency
- Optical Communications

# **Intelligent Systems – Cross-Cutting Competencies** Expertise:

- Optics and Photonics
- Smart Sensor Systems
- Instrumentation- Electronic
- Controls- Dynamic System Modeling and Controls



# Communications and Intelligent Systems Division (LC)

**Communications and Intelligent Systems Division (LC)** 



115 FTE Chief: Dawn C. Emerson **58 WYE** Deputy Chief: Dr. Félix A. Miranda Communications ST: Dr. Robert R. Romanofsky **Architectures, Networks and Systems** Intelligent Control and Autonomy Branch **Integration Branch** LCC/Dr. Sanjay Garg LCA/Denise Ponchak

**Advanced High Frequency Branch** 

LCF/Dave Buchanan

**Optics and Photonics Branch** LCP/Dr. George Baaklini

**Information and Signal Processing Branch** 

LCI/Gene Fujikawa

**Smart Sensors and Electronics Systems Branch** LCS/Dr. Larry Matus

Education



■ PhD ■ MS ■ BS



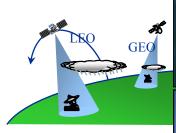
## Communications and Intelligent Systems Division (LC)



# Optics and Photonics

Optical Instrumentation Optical Communications Health Monitoring

# Advanced High Frequency



Antennas/Propagation
RF Systems and Components
3-D Electromagnetic Modeling

# Architectures, Networks and Systems Integration





Communications Architectures
Modeling and Simulation/Tech Demos
Spectrum and Link Analysis

# Networks and Intelligent Control and Autonomy





Intelligent Controls
Dynamic Modeling
Health Management

# **Smart Sensors and Electronics Systems**



Thin Film Physical Sensors High Temp/Harsh Environment Focus Wireless Technologies

# Information and Signal Processing





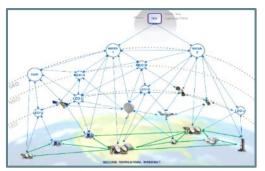


Radio Systems – SDRs, Cognitive Bandwidth and Power-Efficiency Waveform Development



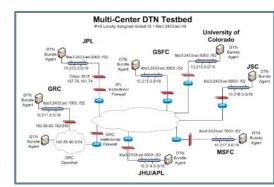
## Architectures, Networks and Systems Integration Branch (LCA)





#### **Communications Systems**

- Systems engineering of future SCaN Integrated Network Architecture.
- Requirements decomposition, systems definition, development, hardware and software build up, test and delivery of Space Network compatibility test unit including TDRS signal simulator.





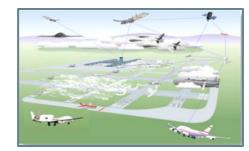






#### **Aeronautical Communications**

 Includes air-to-air, air-to-ground, and ground-based mobile wireless communications, information networking, navigation and surveillance research, technology development, testing and demonstration, advanced concepts and architectures development, and national and international technology standards development.







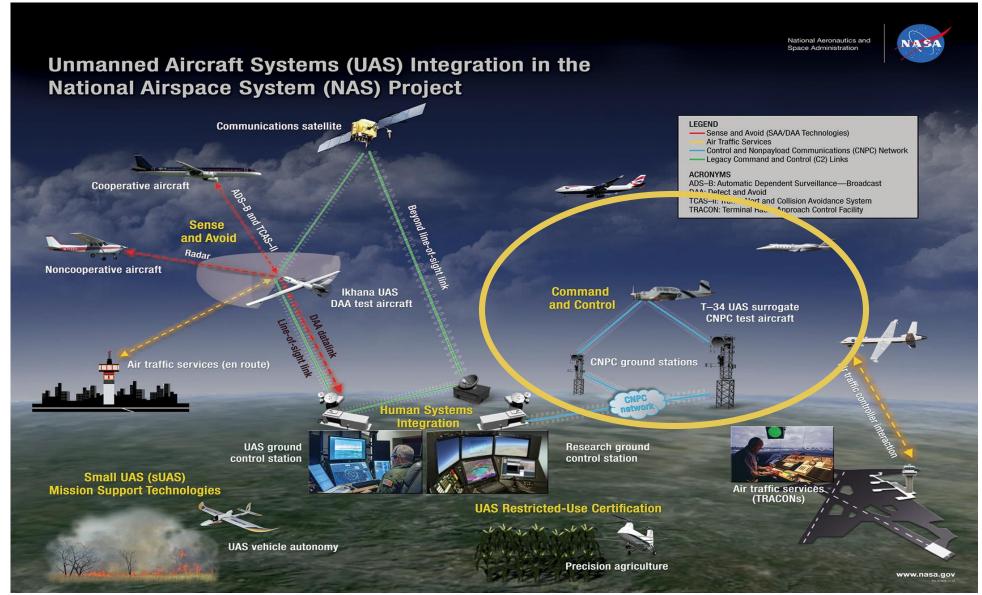
#### **Network Research**

 Development of network components, design of network layers and networked systems architectures. Emphasis is on secure wireless mobility, protocol characterization and development, requirements definition, and flight software/hardware component assessment. Also includes "virtual" mission operations.



# UAS in the NAS







# Information and Signal Processing Branch (LCI)



#### **LCI Overview**

Conducts research and technology development of information and signal processing methods and approaches of digital communications systems for aerospace applications. Emphasis on software-defined and cognitive radios; open SDR architectures and waveform development; position, navigation and timing methods; spectrum and power efficient techniques; reconfigurable microelectronic devices





**SCaN Testbed** 

#### Facilities/Labs

- Software-Defined and Cognitive Radio **Technology Development Laboratory**
- Digital Systems and Signal Processing Lab
- **EVA Radio and Integrated Audio Lab**
- SCaN Testbed on ISS Available for **Experimenters**



Software Defined Radios











**AES/EVA Integrated Audio** 



iROC Flexible Digital Core

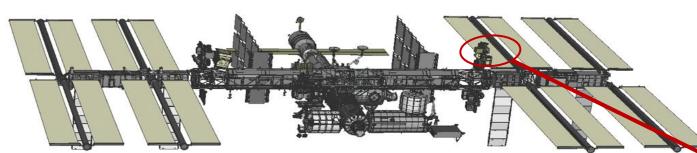
#### **Focus Areas**

- Software-Defined and Cognitive Radios
  - Space Telecommunications Radio System (STRS)
  - STRS-compliant Hardware and Software
  - SDR Waveform Development
  - Digital Core for RF/Optical Terminal
- High Speed Signal Processing
  - Computer Modeling and Simulation Tools
  - Wireless and Microelectronic Devices for Communications
- Advanced Exploration Systems
  - Integrated Audio/Microphone Arraying
  - EVA Radio Development
  - Surface Navigation
- SCaN Testbed Flight Radio Experiments and Demonstrations
  - **GPS Navigation and Timing**
  - Ka-Band, Bandwidth-Efficient, High Rate Waveform
  - S- and Ka-Band IP Networking and Routing
  - Adaptive Modulation and Coding for Cognitive Radio

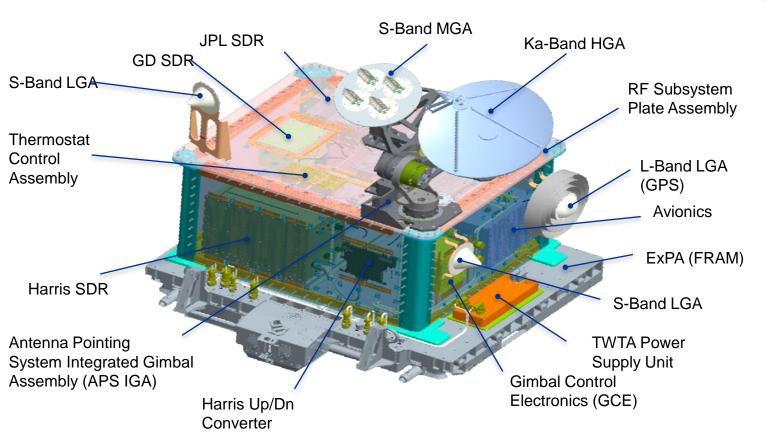


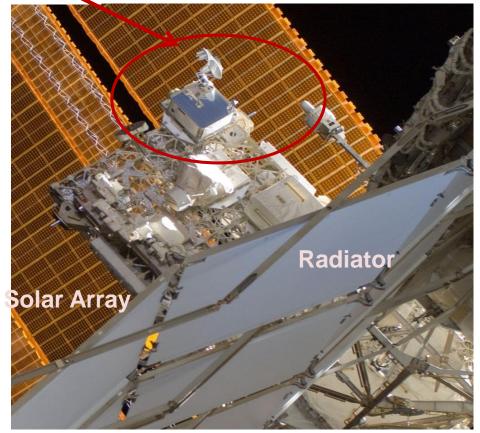
# Space Communication and Navigation Testbed





# SCaN Testbed aboard International Space Station







# Roadmap to Cognitive Communications

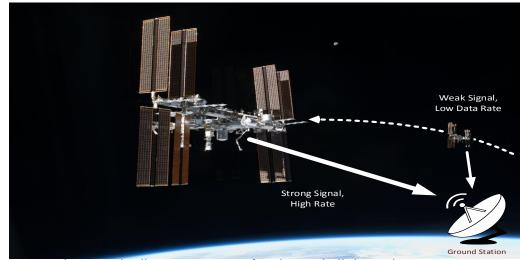


Goal: Develop next generation cognitive technologies for communications to increase mission

science return and improve resource efficiencies.

SCaN Test Bed is an early proving ground for experiments in cognitive communications

- Performed experiments in VCM and ACM
- Moving toward cognitive communications
  - Enhanced adaptive capability- More efficient use of spectrum, power and network resource management.
     Adapt mission operations based on internal and external environments.



Automatically compensate for dynamic link environment

**SDR** 

Configurable

**Properties** 

Variable Coding & Modulation (VCM)

Reconfigure system based on predictions

Adaptive Coding & Modulation (ACM)

Dynamic reconfiguration based on feedback

Cognitive Radio/System

Adapting and learning to form intelligent systems: cognitive radios, intelligent networking, user initiated services



## Advanced High Frequency Branch (LCF)



#### **Branch Overview**

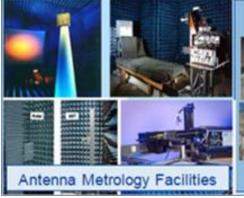
- Conducts research and technology development, integration, validation, and verification at frequencies extending up to the terahertz region in the areas of semiconductor devices and integrated circuits, antennas, power combiners, frequency and phase agile devices for phased arrays, and radio wave propagation through Earth's atmosphere, in support of NASA space missions and aeronautics applications.
- R&D is conducted in-house and also in collaboration with academia and industry to develop low mass, small size, high power and efficiency traveling-wave tube amplifiers, solid state power amplifiers; novel antenna technologies (e.g., wideband antennas, hybrid antennas (i.e., RF/Optical), ground stations, among others.
- The Branch supports development of advanced technologies such as superconducting quantum interference filter (SQIF) for ultra-sensitive receivers and Ka-band multi-access arrays for NASA's next generation space communications.
- Facilities include planar and cylindrical near-field, far-field and compact antenna ranges, cryogenic microwave and millimeter-wave device and circuit characterization laboratory, high power amplifier characterization laboratory, radio wave propagation laboratory, and clean room facilities.
- Semiconductor device modeling and high frequency circuit simulation, fabrication, and integration facilities are also available.

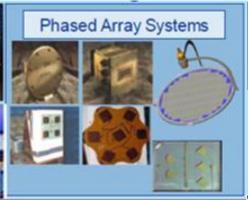




# Advanced RF Antenna and Optical Technologies





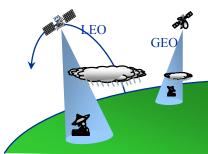




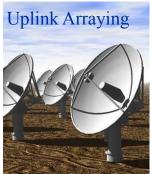




Antennas/Propagation







Mesh Antennas

Polymers Antennas

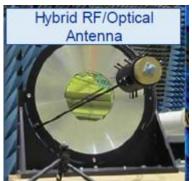
3-D Printed Antennas for Cubesats

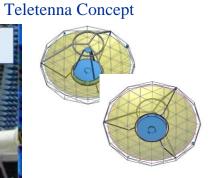




SCaN Testbed Ground Station





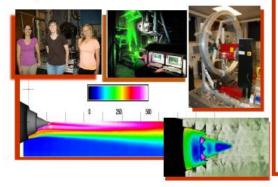




## Optics and Photonics Branch (LCP)



### **Optical Instrumentation**



#### http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/Optinstr/

- Our data and instrumentation help designers understand the fundamental physics of new systems, validate aeronautics computational and life models, and improve space optical communications for human and robotic explorations.
- Our data leads to improved designs, validation and verification of systems performances, increased communications, safety and security and reduced design cycle times for many of the core technologies developed at Glenn and across NASA.

#### Flow/Noise Diagnostics

- Particle imaging Velocimetry (PIV)
- Background Oriented Schlieren
- Rayleigh Scattering
- PIV Tomography
- Combustion diagnostics
- Raman Diagnostics (Species, T)
- Plasma generation

#### **Surface Diagnostics**

- Temperature Sensitive Paint
- Pressure Sensitive Paint
- Stress Sensitive Film

#### **Engine Icing**

- Light Extinction Tomography
- Light Extinction Probes
- Raman Spectroscopy
- Impedance Sensor

### **Optical Communications**



#### **Free Space Communications**

- Optical Teletennas
- Beaconless Pointing Systems
- High Data Rate for Deep Space & Near Earth

#### Secure Quantum Communications

- Quantum Entanglement
- Pulsed photon Pairs
- Quantum Illumination
- Quantum Key Distributions

### Photonics and Health Monitoring



#### Mobile and Remote Sensing

- On-Orbit Solar Cell Characterization MISSE 5-8; TACSAT- 4;
- Hyperspectral Imaging
- Mobile Sensing Platforms

#### Communications

- Communications over power lines
- Communications Interface Boards
- High Data Rate

#### **Health Monitoring**

- Microwave Blade Tip Clearance
- Self diagnostic Accelerometer
- Fiber optics sensors
- Morphology dependent resonance
- Phosphor Thermography
- · Capacitance & piezo patches sensors
- · Wireless and wired techniques



# Remote Sensing of Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) in Lake Erie



NASA aircraft

#### **Current status**

- Airborne hyperspectral sensing capability for monitoring potentially harmful algal blooms
- 14 flights in 2014, 26 flights in 2015 and 6 flights this year
- Provide HAB data on water intakes in Lake Erie, small lakes and the Ohio river

Research partners also conduct water sampling and ground optical measurements

- NOAA GLERL
- University of Toledo
- Kent State University
- Michigan Tech Research Institute
- Bowling Green State University
- OhioView
- Naval Research Lab



Shore radiance measurements



HAB information provided by remote sensing and water sampling can provide for early warning to ensure proper water treatment and shutoff avoidance



### Future Directions in HSI HAB Research

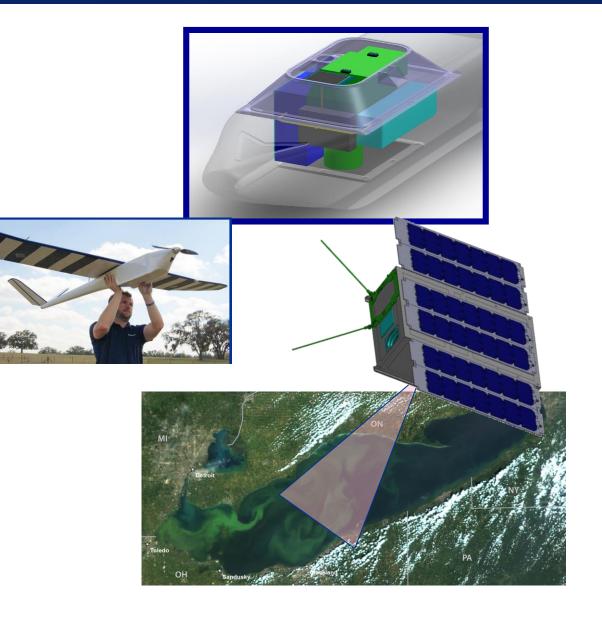


### New Platforms:

- Integrate a hyperspectral imager into an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) starting in August 2016
- Two hyperspectral imagers in development that are appropriate for a cubesat

# New Algorithms

- Mirror based atmospheric correction
- Verimax rotated principal component analysis
- Tuned Cyanobacteria index





# Integrated Radio and Optical Communications (iROC)

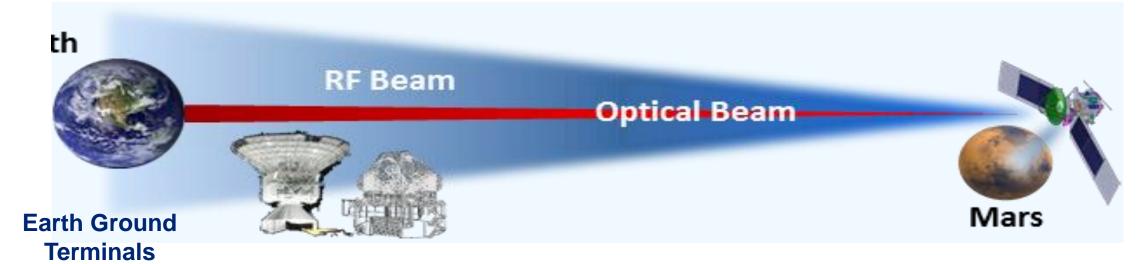


#### **iROC** Objectives:

- Combine the best features of deep space RF and optical communications elements into an integrated system:
- Increase data throughput while reducing spacecraft mass, power and volume.
- Extensible to, and mitigates risk for missions from near Earth to deep space.
- Prototype and demonstrate performance of key components to increase TRL, leading to an integrated hybrid communications system demonstration.

### **Key enabling technologies:**

- Combined RF/optical Teletenna
- Precision beaconless pointing /navigation through sensor fusion
- RF/optical Software Defined Radio (SDR)
- Networked RF/optical link management (DTN)





# Smart Sensors and Electronics Systems Branch (LCS)



#### **Description**

Conducts research and development of adaptable instrumentation to enable intelligent measurement systems for ongoing and future aerospace propulsion and space exploration programs. Emphasis is on smart sensors and electronics systems for diagnostic engine health monitoring, controls, safety, security, surveillance, and biomedical applications; often for high temperature/harsh environments.



**Microsystems Fabrication Facility** 

#### **Focus Areas**

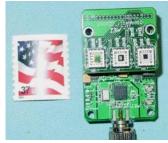
- Silicon Carbide (SiC) based electronic devices
  - Sensors and electronics for high temp (600°C) use
  - Wireless sensor technologies, integrated circuits, and packaging
- Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems (MEMS)
  - Pressure, acceleration, fuel actuation, and deep etching
- Chemical gas species sensors
  - Leak detection, emission, fire and environmental, and human health monitoring
- Microfabricated thin-film physical sensors
  - Temperature, strain, heat flux, flow, and radiation measurements
- Harsh environment nanotechnology
  - Nano-based processing using microfabrication techniques
  - Smart memory alloys and ultra low power devices

#### Facilities/Labs

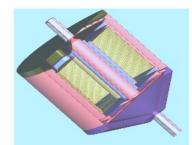
- Microsystems Fabrication Facilities
  - Class 100 Clean Room
  - Class 1000 Clean Room
- Chemical vapor deposition laboratories
- Chemical sensor testing laboratories
- · Harsh environment laboratories
  - Nanostructure fabrication and analysis
  - Sensor and electronic device test and evaluation



SiC Signal Processing



**Chemical Gas Sensors** 



MEMS Fuel Actuation



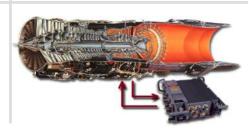
Thin Film Physical Sensors



# Intelligent Control and Autonomy Branch (LCC)



#### **Propulsion Controls**



#### **Active Combustion Control**

Control of Thermo-acoustic Instability High Bandwidth Fuel Actuation

#### **Advanced Control Architecture**

Distributed Engine Control
Hardware-in-the-loop Test-bed

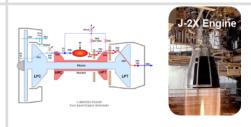
#### **Intelligent Engine Control**

Enhanced Engine Response for Emergency Operations Robust Engine Control Model-Based Engine Control V&V of Advanced Controls

#### **High Speed Propulsion**

Aero-Propulso-Servo Elasticity for Supersonic Propulsion System Mode Transition Management for Air-Breathing Hypersonic Propulsion

#### **Health Management**



#### **Propulsion & Power Systems**

Gas Path Health Management
Sensor Selection
Sensor Data Qualification
Fault Modeling and Diagnostics
Model-Based Engine Simulation for
Engine Test, Calibration and
Performance Analyses

#### **Current NASA Programs**

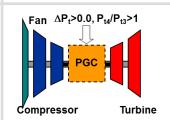
#### **Aeronautics Research Mission**

Advanced Air Vehicle
Airspace Operations and Safety
Transformative Aeronautics Concepts

#### **Human Exploration and Operations Mission**

Space Launch System SCAN Orion

#### **Advanced Propulsion Concepts**



#### **Unsteady Propulsion**

Pulse Detonation Engine
Pressure Gain Combustion

#### **Communications**

#### **Integrated Radio and Optical Comm**

Spacecraft Attitude Estimation Spacecraft Structural Dynamics

#### **Software Tools**

#### Engine Modeling & Control

C-MAPSS (Commercial Modula Aero Propulsion System Simulation) C-MAPSS40k (40,000 lb Thrust Engine) T-MATS (Tool for Modeling and Analysis of Thermodynamic Systems) Combustion Instability Simulation